

you make a law like this, might it possibly have the result of the manufacturers no longer giving an express warranty and then we will perhaps not help the consumer but in effect perhaps deceive the consumer or harm the consumer? I don't know. I am asking the question.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Okay, what you are saying then essentially and I will answer the question. If we make them live up... live up to what they're promising in writing now, they will quit promising in the future and we will have nothing. As a practical matter, I don't believe so because then they are going to be competing with people who are willing to give written promises like the other....quite frankly, like foreign cars do, and, of course, foreign cars come under this. But somebody, as you noticed when the competition developed just in the recent years over who has the better warranty, one would say five miles or five years and 50,000 and another would expand it to one thing or another. We are dealing specifically with the written warranties they are advertising now and that they are going to have to be advertising obviously for the 1984 and '85 models. So let's deal with this one. If we see that developing two, three, four years hence, then I would say, yes, let's target in on that. The specific problem now is the actual written warranties they are giving, when you get a lemon it doesn't mean a heck of a lot. We are trying to set up a system to really enforce them.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, I appreciate your effort and I will obviously be supporting the bill, but I may have further questions on how we can go with this possibility.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Lamb, on the committee amendments.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, one question of Senator DeCamp. Is there any way that this bill would discriminate between our domestic manufacturers and the foreign manufacturer? In other words, can we enforce this against a Japanese manufacturer the same way we can against General Motors?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Absolutely. When they agree to put a car in this country they have to meet certain American standards, so on and so forth. They have to have representatives, manufacturers' reps. In fact, at the hearing...at the hearing they did I believe have some representatives. They have to be registered agents in this country. So, yes, no different for them than it is for General Motors or anybody else in terms of their obligations for enforcement and their reachability, the ability to go to them.